

HONORING THE ISLAMIC CENTER
OF CULPEPER

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Islamic Center of Culpeper on the occasion of the ground breaking of their new mosque.

Culpeper, Virginia is home to a growing, close-knit Muslim community known as the Islamic Center of Culpeper, (ICC). For many years the ICC community has been worshipping in a very small space lacking proper heating in the brutal winters and air conditioning in the scorching summers. The facility even lacked an adequate washing facility to perform ablution before prayers. The ICC searched for nearly five years before finding and purchasing a parcel of land in January of 2016. Immediately, they made plans to begin constructing a brand-new mosque to serve as a place of worship and a place for community.

The ICC had no idea of the challenges they would face.

Since 1995, every pump and hall permit application submitted to the Culpeper County Government by a house of worship had been approved, but in April of 2016, the County denied ICC's permit application.

The County also ordered a moratorium on any new pump and haul applications, which barred ICC from any attempts to re-apply, and in advance of one of the local zoning hearings, protesters hung a banner stating, "NO ISLAMIC CENTER!" in big black letters.

The ICC fought back.

Muslim Advocates and Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer filed a lawsuit against the County on behalf of ICC, following a lawsuit by the Department of Justice and one month later, the ICC and the County reached a settlement. The ICC could move forward with their plans to build a mosque, and the County issued a statement welcoming the ICC and compensated the community for their expenses.

Please join me in honoring the ICC and their resilience as they celebrate this milestone project.

RECOGNIZING ROGER KNOELL FOR
THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRES-
SIONAL VETERAN COMMENDA-
TION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Roger Knoell of Butte for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Knoell is a veteran of the United States Navy serving in the Vietnam War. Over his twenty years of service, Mr. Knoell received multiple medals and awards, including the Submarine Dolphin Warfare Pin, the Combat Action Ribbon, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Upon returning to his community, Mr. Knoell dedicated his time to veteran groups in Butte.

As a member of the American Legion, he served as a key member in the selection of the of Butte for the new Southwest Montana Veterans Home. Outside of his work with veterans' groups, Mr. Knoell serves on the Board of Directors for the Legion Oasis Apartment Complex, which provides low- and medium-income housing for the residents of Butte. He is also known to be a great Butte promoter, bringing events to the community such as the Harley Owners State Rally, and the United States Submarine Veterans Incorporated.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Roger Knoell for his service to his country and his dedication to the Butte Community.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL
APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

HON. RUSS FULCHER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. FULCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Apprenticeship Week.

In my home state of Idaho, more than 1,500 students participate in registered apprenticeships. This is a jump of fifty percent in just the last two years. More than 280 Idaho companies participate in apprenticeship programs. They include companies like Micron Technology, that enroll about 350 people every year in their apprenticeship program. But success in apprenticeship programs is about more than numbers. Take the story of Bryan Brandel, who comes from my hometown of Meridian. Bryan grew up watching his father and grandfather work as linemen for the phone company. Bryan seemed to be following in their footsteps when he enrolled in a Vocational Technology program at Meridian High School. He learned practical skills, including how to weld. As Bryan was completing high school, his father and grandfather encouraged him to pursue a traditional four-year degree. He finished his degree; but wasn't sure what to do next. He went on to graduate school, still not sure what he was going to do. Months before completing his dissertation, Bryan realized that he did not want to pursue Ecology or Biology. He thought about his passion. That took him back to his high school Vocational Technology program. He made the bold step of becoming a lineman in the electric utility industry. After finishing school at Northwest Lineman College, he started working for Idaho Power, completing their lineman apprenticeship program. He obtained a journeyman position on a line crew, and today is a line crew foreman. Bryan's story is typical of the many young adults in our communities who follow traditional education paths that might not be right for them. Because of his experience, Bryan actively promotes apprenticeships for Idaho Power. He speaks to high school students about the wonderful opportunities they bring. His story is truly inspirational. Apprenticeship programs create good-paying jobs, allow students to complete programs debt-free, and provide a sense of accomplishment. They give Idahoans like Bryan, and all Americans, opportunity and purpose in our market economy.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL CY-
BERSECURITY CAREER AWARE-
NESS WEEK

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, November 11th marks the start of National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week. This week-long campaign focuses on local, regional and national interest to engage the community on not only the importance of cybersecurity but career opportunities in the field.

Cybersecurity IT workers play a vital role in upkeeping the integrity of our systems, networks, and programs as well as pioneering new ways to promote system strength against unforeseen threats. In a highly interconnected and increasingly globalized world, there has never been a more important time than now to raise awareness.

Unfortunately, America is facing a critical shortage of people trained in cybersecurity. There are currently over 300,000 jobs nationally that need to be filled in the cybersecurity workforce and globally, an expected shortfall of 1.8 million cybersecurity professionals by 2022. This deficit can easily be filled by American talent and continued commitment to making educational resources available early.

In my own district, we are playing our part by educating the public about what role cybersecurity plays in their everyday lives and how impactful a career in cybersecurity can be. To raise awareness of the importance of cybersecurity, several of our local colleges along with CareerSource Brevard, Brevard School District, Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast and Florida High Tech Corridor to name a few, will come together to discuss the role of cybersecurity in our economy, in enhancing public safety and national security.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week.

RECOGNIZING NEIL NEARY FOR
THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRES-
SIONAL VETERAN COMMENDA-
TION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Neil Neary of Butte for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and commitment to the American Legion.

Mr. Neary is a veteran of the U.S. Army and served during the Korean War. He was a member of the engineering corps and received commendations including the Good Conduct Medal. After his service in the Army, Mr. Neary brought back his spirit of service to his community as a member of American Legion Post 1 in Butte.

As a member of the Montana American Legion for 62 years, Mr. Neary has been an important figure for the Legion. He served in various roles over the years and was the Department of Montana State Commander for three

of those years. Mr. Neary's long service and leadership in the Montana American Legion has made him a patriotic role model for many in his community.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Neil Neary for his dedication and commitment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM R. TIMMONS, IV

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I missed votes last week (11/12 through 11/15) due to full-time military duties with the South Carolina Air National Guard. Had I been present, I would have voted:

YEA on Roll Call No. 610; YEA on Roll Call No. 611; YEA on Roll Call No. 612; YEA on Roll Call No. 613; YEA on Roll Call No. 614; NAY on Roll Call No. 615; NAY on Roll Call No. 616; YEA on Roll Call No. 617; YEA on Roll Call No. 618; YEA on Roll Call No. 619; YEA on Roll Call No. 620; YEA on Roll Call No. 621; YEA on Roll Call No. 622; YEA on Roll Call No. 623; and NAY on Roll Call No. 624.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the second vote series on October 22, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 578.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS PRICE FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas Price of Eureka, a recipient of the 2019 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Price is a veteran of the United States Navy. He served from 1944 to 1946 on the USS *Missoula* APA 211 earning the Pacific 2 Star Award and attaining the rank of Seaman First Class. He was on board the USS *Missoula* when the flag was raised on Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima on February 23, 1945.

Serving his community, Mr. Price has worked with special needs children for 25 years. He's given ten scholarships to local high school graduating seniors. He's also spent many years serving on boards for the local nursing home and Lincoln County Fairgrounds. Mr. Price even puts on a weekly bingo game and donates the proceeds to local charities throughout his community.

Mr. Price is a humble man who continually helps others. He has a generous heart and always blessed the people in his community.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Thomas Price for his dedication and service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on November 13, 2019 during roll call no. 612, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 3537, Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 613, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 499, Service-Disabled Veterans Small Business Continuation Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 614, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3734, SERV Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING MR. ARTHUR MAX BACON'S RETIREMENT

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of an extraordinary Georgian, Mr. Arthur Max Bacon.

Max Bacon is a lifetime civil servant. He began his career at his local branch of the United States Postal Service, only retiring as the town's Postmaster in 2006 after 40 years. For some of that same time, he also served the citizens of Smyrna on their City Council for 6 years, after which he carried on his father's legacy and was elected as the Mayor of Smyrna in 1985. When he retires from his post at the end of this term, he will hold the title of the longest-serving mayor in the city's history.

Mayor Bacon is a life-long resident of Smyrna's 15 square miles. He attended Smyrna Elementary School and graduated from Campbell High School in 1966. In that time, he has seen it transform from a small community to a lively, diverse suburb at the edge of Atlanta in Cobb County. Since Mayor Bacon began his tenure as mayor, Smyrna has more than doubled in residency, growing to become the second most-populated city in the county. However, that growth did not come without its challenges, which Mayor Bacon has maneuvered handily, allowing the city to reinvent itself over the years.

Through his long span of leadership, Mayor Bacon has received numerous prestigious awards. Some highlights of those are: the 1993 Georgia Municipal Association Community Leadership Award, the Cobb County 1997 Citizen of the Year from the Marietta Daily Journal, the 2001 Citizen of the Year Award from the Smyrna Area Council of the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce, and the 2015

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award by Campbell High School.

Mayor Bacon will be remembered for serving his tireless efforts to serve his hometown and improve the lives of its residents. A mark of a true leader is doing what you think is right, even if it is not the most politically popular choice. Throughout his time as the head of the city of Smyrna, Max Bacon did just that. He is leaving behind an extraordinary legacy, and it is only fitting that we commemorate his contribution to the Smyrna, and the greater Georgia community.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in congratulating Max Bacon on his retirement, and I extend my sincerest wishes for his continued health and happiness.

May God continue to bless Mr. Arthur Max Bacon.

RECOGNIZING HAROLD RIENSCHER FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harold Riensch Senior of Reed Point, a recipient of the 2019 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Riensch is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. He is a Vietnam veteran who served in the 3rd Tank Battalion, 3rd Marine Division earning awards like the Navy Cross, and attaining the rank of Master Gunner Sergeant.

During the Vietnam War, Mr. Riensch and his crew were assigned to recover a disabled tank. During this mission, their vehicle detonated a mine. While repairing their vehicle, the Marines came under heavy fire. In an instant, two of Staff Sergeant Riensch's crew were killed and two others were wounded leaving him alone to defend his injured crew and damaged vehicle. With the help of a few grenades and unmatched bravery, Mr. Riensch was able to fight off the Northern Vietnamese soldiers by himself until backup arrived. His quick action and heroism saved the lives of his two fellow Marines.

After completing his military service, Mr. Riensch served as a member of the Stillwater County Weed control Board and President of the local community landowner's association. His friends and neighbors say Mr. Riensch never hesitates to help when asked upon.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Harold Riensch Senior for his dedication and service.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF STEVE F. DEMPSEY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sheriff Steve Dempsey